

MARVEL
COMICS



X-MEN

AUG '86 55

ONSLAUGHT
AND BEYOND
UPDATE INSIDE!



TWILIGHT
of the
HEROES

ONSLAUGHT
PHASE 1



DIRECT EDITION



\$1.95 US \$2.75 CAN

THIRTY-SIX
HUNDRED
A MONTH.

THE LANDLORD'S
A THIEF.



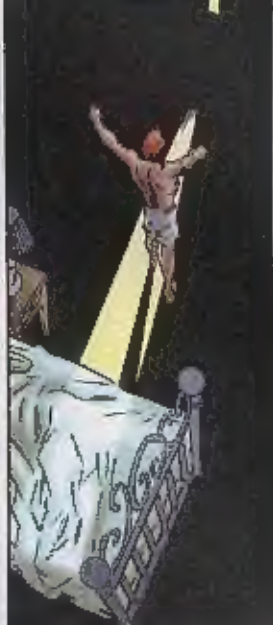
THESE ARE THE FIRST
TWO THOUGHTS STU
PPAFFENBERGER HAS
EVERY MORNING.

FOURTEEN STORIES UP,
AND THE CACOPHONY OF
MIDTOWN MANHATTAN
STILL INVADERS HIS SLEEP.

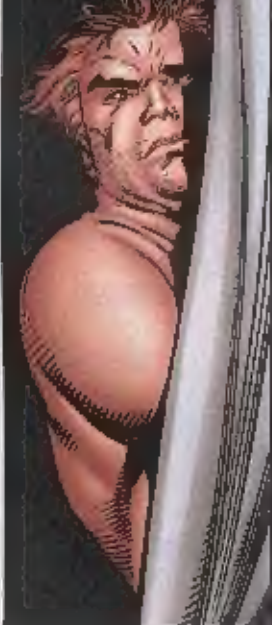


THE BEDROOM'S THE
SIZE OF A MINIVAN.

THE WALLS ARE
TOO THIN AND
THE TOILET WON'T
STOP RUNNING.



IN FACT, THIS DUMP
HAS ONLY ONE THING
GOING FOR IT.



THE
VIEW...

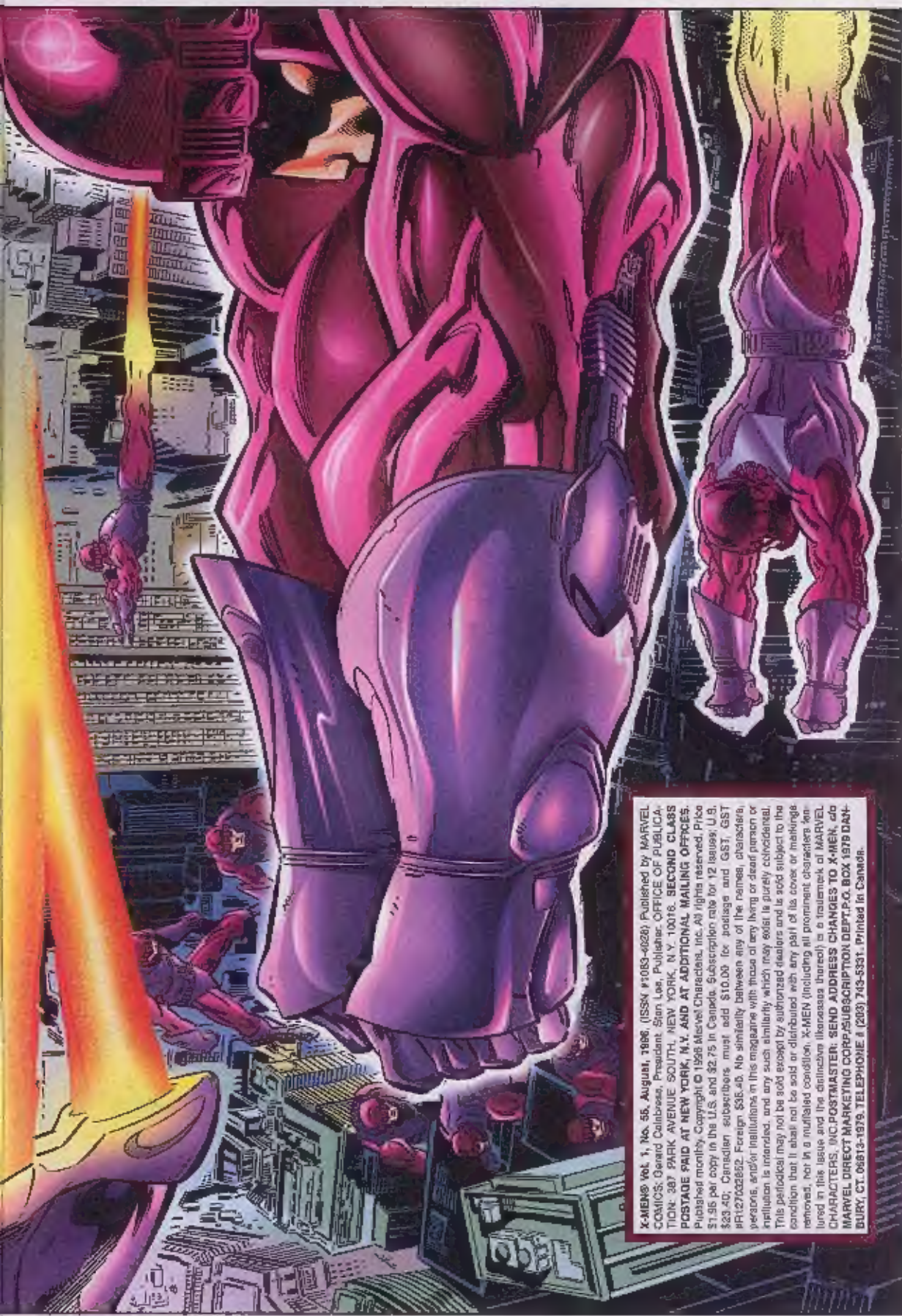


STAN LEONARD'S

INVEST

WINDY WILD STORY • 100 INSIDE
COLORS •
ANDY ROBERT PENCILS •
JOHN PANOSIAN HAS •
BACKWOOD STORIES AND COMIC-ART LETTERS •
BOB HARRIS EDITOR AND CHIEF





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THE SENTINELS
HAVE LANDED
IN NEW YORK.

HARD.



A PHALANX OF ROBOTIC DRONES,
THEY WERE ORIGINALLY DESIGNED
TO PROTECT HUMANITY FROM THE
SO-CALLED "MUTANT MENACE."



PROTECTION IS
NO LONGER ON
THEIR AGENDA.

INSTEAD, THEY PROWL THE
MANHATTAN STREETS,
SEALING EVERY ENTRANCE
AND EXIT TO THE ISLAND
WITH SURGICAL PRECISION.



SEVENTEEN
MINUTES,
START TO
FINISH.

AND NO ONE
DARES RAISE A
HAND AGAINST
THEM...

... NO ONE
SAVE THOSE
GATHERED
ATOP FOUR
FREEDOMS
PLAZA.

THEY WATCH,
AND THEY KNOW
WITH SINKING
REALIZATION...

...THAT THEY
ARE THE HOPE
OF THE WORLD.

I SEE
XAVIER'S
FOUND HIS
SOLDIERS.

WE CAME
AS SOON AS WE
GOT YOUR SIGNAL,
REED. OBVIOUSLY,
THAT WASN'T SOON
ENOUGH.





WE ALL
HAD OUR JOBS
TO DO, CAPTAIN
AMERICA, THE AVENGERS,
THE FANTASTIC FOUR, THE
X-MEN... WE WERE
ALL IN SEARCH OF
INFORMATION.

WE
HOPED -- IN
VAIN -- THAT WE'D
UPROOT THE PLANS
OF CHARLES
XAVIER --

ONSLAUGHT.
CALL HIM
ONSLAUGHT.

HE'S
NOT THE PROFESSOR
WE KNEW.

NOT
ANY-
MORE.

MY
APOLOGIES,
ICEMAN... AND MY
CONDOLENCES.
YOU'RE RIGHT,
OF COURSE.

XAVIER
WASN'T JUST
THE LEADER OF THE
X-MEN. HE WAS A
FRIEND.

BUT EACH
TICK OF THE CLOCK
TAKES US FURTHER AWAY
FROM THE POSSIBILITY
THAT WE MIGHT SAVE
CHARLES FROM
HIMSELF --

-- BEFORE HE
CONQUERS ALL
OF EARTH.



WE SUSPECT THAT MAGNETO HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH ONSLAUGHT'S ASCENDANCE.

I'M DISAPPOINTED YOU FAILED TO LOCATE HIM.

IN FACT, BISHOP, WE DID FIND HIM...

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"... MYSTERIOUSLY DE-AGED... AND APPARENTLY PURGED OF HIS CRIMINAL TENDENCIES. HE'S NOT OUR PROBLEM. IN FACT, HE'S ANXIOUS TO HELP."



"WE ALSO FOUND ROGUE AT HIS SIDE. I DIDN'T REALIZE THOSE TWO WERE CLOSE."

WHAT WENT ON HERE IN THE MEANTIME?

NOTHING GOOD. WE CONFRONTED ONSLAUGHT DIRECTLY...

ROGUE... AND MAGNETO...

TOGETHER...

... ONLY TO WATCH HIM KIDNAP MY SON...

... PRESUMABLY TO ADD FRANKLIN'S REALITY-BENDING POWERS TO HIS OWN.

NO ONE KNOWS WHERE ONSLAUGHT WENT... BUT CLEARLY, THE SENTINELS ARE HIS HANDWORK.

4

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THAT'S
RIGHT —
FROSTY —
FRANKLIN'S
GONE.

ONSLAUGHT
SAID HE WANTED
TO PUNISH HUMANITY...
AND IF HE STARTS
WITH MY NEPHEW, I
SWEAR TO GOD,
I'LL —

YOU'LL
WHAT? GET ALL
HOT ABOUT
IT?

YOU
WANNA GET
STEAMED, TORCH,
I'LL BE GLAD
TO —



JOHNNY! BOBBY! STOP
IT! WE DON'T HAVE TIME
TO BICKER!

WE
HAVE TO WORK
TOGETHER!



THE
CARNAGE...

TO
THINK THAT
SOMEONE WOULD
SO WILLFULLY
TERRORIZE
INNOCENT
PEOPLE.

WHAT
KIND OF MAN
COULD BE
RESPONSIBLE
FOR SUCH A
THING?



A LOST
SOUL.

A
MAN DRIVEN
T' DESPERATE
MEASURES BY
THOSE WHO WOULD
PERSECUTE
HIM.

WE
HAFTA DO
WHAT WE CAN
T' SAVE
HIM...



... AND
GIVE HIM A
SECOND CHANCE
T' MAKE THINGS
RIGHT.

TENDER
SPEECH, CHERE.
I ONLY WONDER
DIS...

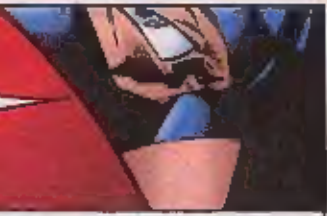
... YOU
TALKIN' 'BOUT
CHARLES...
OR MAGNETO
HIMSELF?

DON'
SOUND LIKE
YOUR NEW FRIEND
MUCH RECOLLECTS
DE SINS OF HIS OWN
PAST. HOW FAIR
YOU RECKON DAT
IS..P



THOR'S TEAM
ON THE EAST SIDE,
QUICKSILVER'S
SQUAD CAN COVER
S.O.H.O.

This large panel shows Thor's team on the East Side. Thor is in the foreground, holding a hammer. Behind him are several other team members, including one with a green cape and another with a red cape. A large fire is visible in the background. A speech bubble from a character in the background says "LET'S GO!".



ALL
RIGHT, PEOPLE!
WE'RE BURNING
DAYLIGHT!

A close-up of a character's face, likely Iron Man, looking down with a determined expression.



THEY'LL DEFEND THE
STREETS. GIANT MAN --
IRON MAN --
BISHOP -- FOLLOW
ME TO THE
LAB.

A group of heroes, including Iron Man, Giant Man, and Bishop, are on a rooftop. Iron Man is in the foreground, looking towards the lab. The other heroes are behind him, ready for action.

IT'S
UP TO US
TO CONSTRUCT
SOME OFFENSIVE
WEAPONRY.

LET'S
GO!



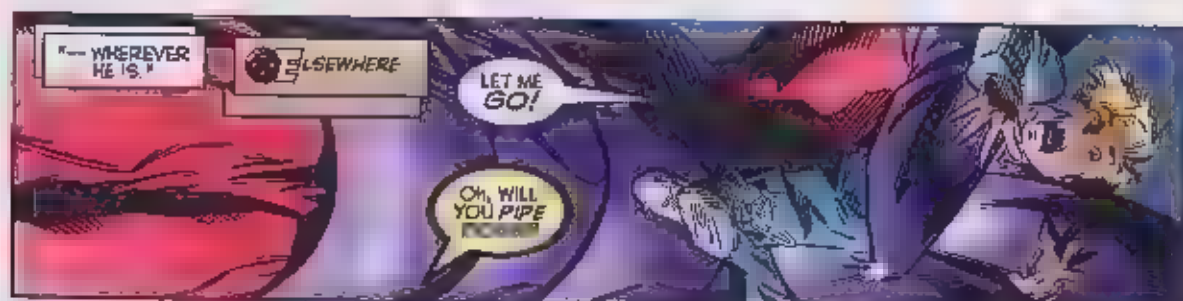
AND
SOME SORT
OF TRACKING
DEVICE?

A close-up of Sue's face, looking serious and determined.

OF
COURSE.

YOU
HAVE MY
WORD,
SUE.

WE'LL FIND
FRANKLIN --



"WHEREVER HE IS."

ELSEWHERE

LET ME GO!

OH, WILL YOU PIPE DOWN!



FRANK-LIN NO ONE'S GONNA HURT YOU, PAL! NO ONE CAN HURT ME... AND DO YOU KNOW WHY?

BECAUSE I'M A PART OF ONSLAUGHT... AND YOU CAN BE, TOO!

I DON' WANNA!

NO!

CHARLIE I THOUGHT YOU WERE MUH-MY F-FRIEND!

HE IS, CHILD WE'RE BOTH LOOKING OUT FOR YOU.

WE HAVE BEEN FOR A WHILE NOW.



YOU ARE IMPORTANT TO ME FRANKLIN.

I MARVEL AT THE FACT THAT YOU CAN DO ALMOST ANYTHING YOU IMAGINE.

WE'RE MUCH ALIKE, FRANKLIN.

YOU 'N I WE'RE BOTH SPECIAL, Y'KNOW?

AND A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE AFRAID OF SPECIAL KIDS AND THEIR POWERS.



YOUR OWN DADDY TRIED TO SHUT YOUR POWERS DOWN ONCE, HE WAS SO SCARED OF YOU. YOU REMEMBER THAT?

WELL, ONSLAUGHT CAN FIX IT SO NO ONE HAS TO BE SCARED ANYMORE. NO ONE.



WITH YOUR HELP, CHILD... I CAN BUILD A PLACE THAT WILL KEEP US SAFE.

CONCENTRATE, FRANKLIN... CONCENTRATE...

WALLY BECK'S NEW EXCLUSIVE COLUMN
"WHY - BOB!"

THE BLACKBIRD CUTS ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

IT'S FIVE PASSENGERS: ANGEL, CANNONBALL, CYCLOPS, PHOENIX AND PSYLOCKE. FLEW TO MUIR ISLAND AT THE INSISTENCE OF MOIRA MACTAGGERT.

NOW WHAT MOIRA GAVE THEM

-- HAS THEM THUNDERSTRUCK.

TEN MINUTES OUT OF NEW YORK AIRSPACE. WE'RE FOLLOWING SIGNALS FROM FOUR FREEDOMS PLAZA.

THAT'S MY REPORT, CYKE. WHAT'S YOURS?

I... DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

THE PROFESSOR'S GREATEST FEAR HAS ALWAYS BEEN THAT A MUTANT WOULD GO LOOSE CONTROL AS TO ENDANGER THE WORLD.

I NEVER DREAMED HE MADE SECRET PLANS FOR JUST THAT CONTINGENCY

THE XAVIER PROTOCOLS -- AS MOIRA CALLED THEM -- SHOW IN DEADLY DETAIL HOW TO NEUTRALIZE EACH AND EVERY X-MAN --

INCLUDING XAVIER HIMSELF.

HE KNOWS OUR STRENGTHS... OUR WEAKNESSES... WHAT POSSIBLE CHANCE DO WE HAVE AGAINST HIM?

THE XAVIER PROTOCOLS
AS DRAFTED BY
PROF CHARLES FRANCIS XAVIER
RE ARCHANGEL BEAST
BISHOP CANNONBALL
CYCLOPS GAMBIT ICEMAN
PSYLOCKE ROGUE STORM
WOLVERINE

MY GOD...

SCOTT, I KNOW THIS IS HITTING YOU HARD.

WE'RE FIGHTING A MAN WHO'S LIKE A FATHER TO BOTH OF US.

JUST REMEMBER... INSIDE ONSLAUGHT IS A GOOD MAN NAMED CHARLES XAVIER. WE'LL GET TO HIM. WE WILL.

... NOT IF HE GETS TO US FIRST...

OUR FREEDOM'S PLAZA.

THIS IS SOME SET-UP, RICHARDS. I THINK I JUST WIRED YOUR CD-PLAYER TO YOUR MICROWAVE...

BUT I REALLY CAN'T TELL.

DON'T SELL YOURSELF SHORT, PYM.

YOU'RE THE MOST BRILLIANT BIO-ENGINEER ALIVE. YOUR INPUT WILL BE INVALUABLE.

HERE. ARMOR MY FATHER USED TO SHIELD HIMSELF FROM FRANKLIN'S POWERS. WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THIS?

ANTHONY RICHARDS
- Bob.

LET ME TAKE A LOOK, Mr. RICHARDS, IT SEEMS TO BE --

-- WOW.

NEURAL NETWEBBED... FULLY TESSELLATED...

... THIS IS A MUST-SALVAGE.

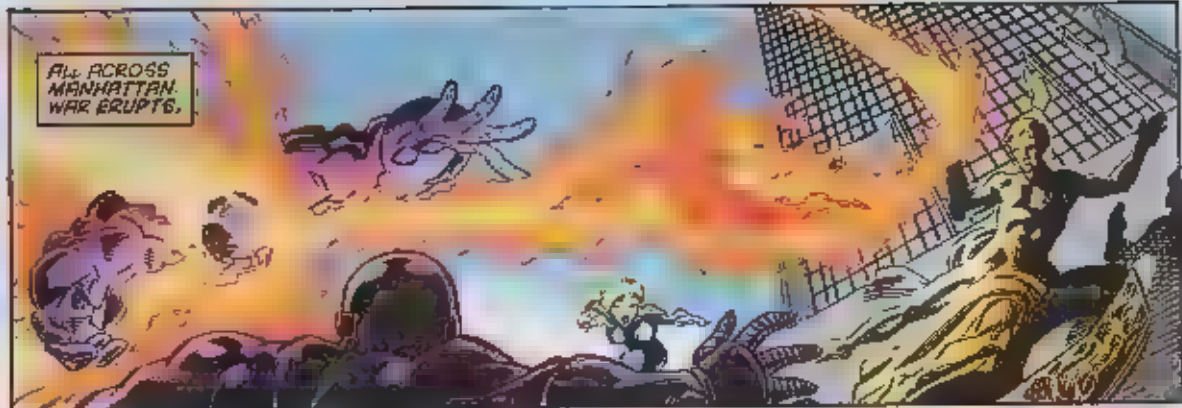
OKAY SO WE CAN COBBLE UP SOMETHING IMPERVIOUS TO FRANKLIN'S POWERS...

BUT NOT NECESSARILY TO XAVIER'S

"IF WE'RE GOING TO TAKE HIM,

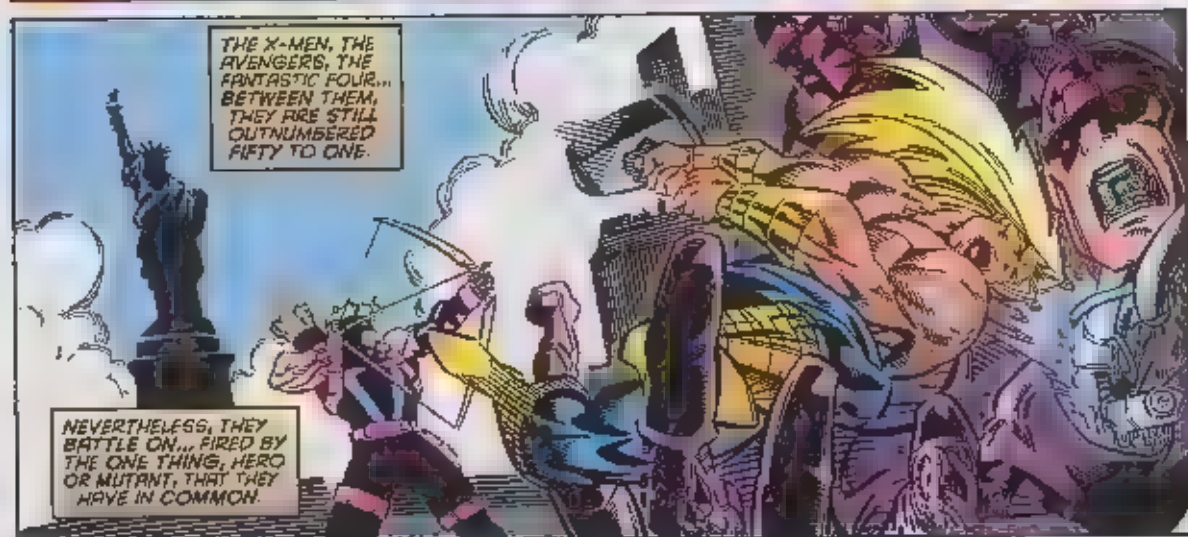
" WE'LL NEED SOME ACE IN THE HOLE..."

ALL ACROSS
MANHATTAN,
WAR ERUPTS.

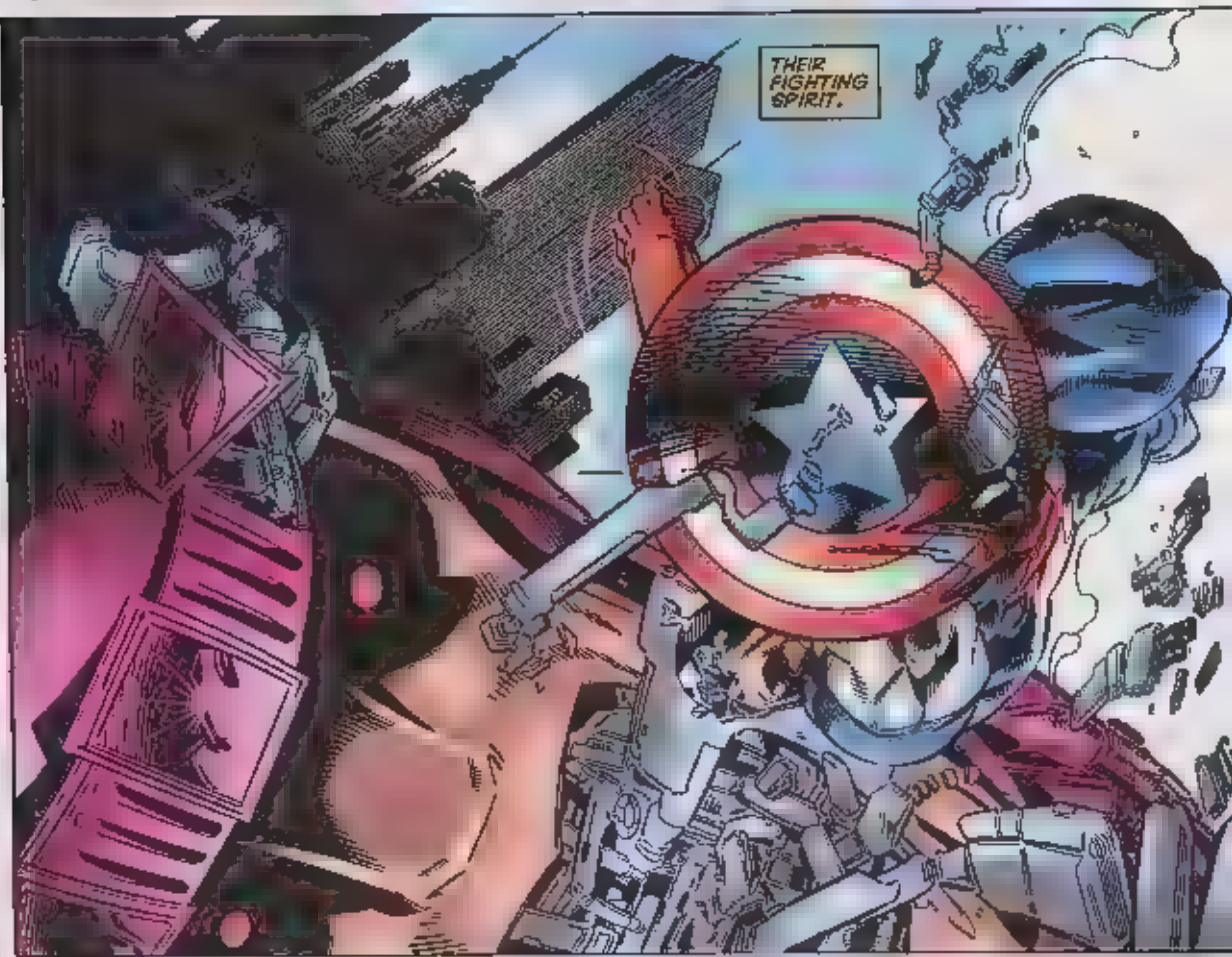


THE X-MEN, THE
AVENGERS, THE
FANTASTIC FOUR...
BETWEEN THEM,
THEY ARE STILL
OUTNUMBERED
FIFTY TO ONE.

NEVERTHELESS, THEY
BATTLE ON... FIRED BY
THE ONE THING, HERO
OR MUTANT, THAT THEY
HAVE IN COMMON.



THEIR
FIGHTING
SPIRIT.





IN MIDTOWN, ROGUE AND MAGNETO POOL THEIR STRATEGY, MAGNETISM TOPPLES THE SENTINELS

WHILE SUPER-STRENGTH TOTALS THEM



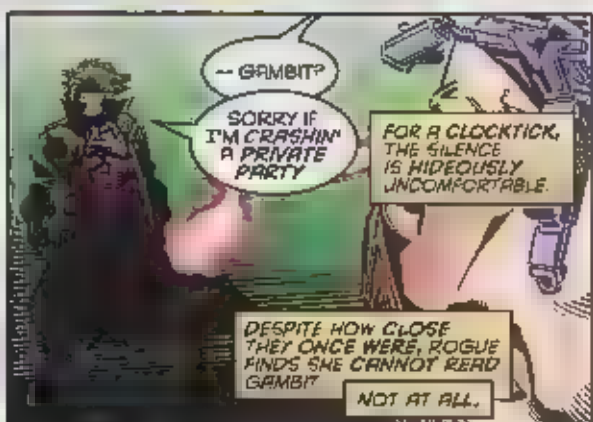
WE MAKE QUITE A PAIR, SUGAR!

THAT WE DO

IN THE SHORT TIME I HAVE KNOWN YOU, ROGUE, YOU HAVE IMPRESSED ME TO NO END.



IT COMFORTS ME TO REALIZE THAT IN A CRISIS, I CAN COUNT ON --



-- GAMBIT?

SORRY IF I'M CRASHIN' A PRIVATE PARTY

FOR A CLOCKTICK, THE SILENCE IS HIDEOUSLY UNCOMFORTABLE.

DESPITE HOW CLOSE THEY ONCE WERE, ROGUE FINDS SHE CANNOT READ GAMBIT

NOT AT ALL.



THAT ONLY ADDS TO HER HORROR WHEN, SUDDENLY...

...HE PLAYS A DIFFERENT TYPE OF CARD...

NOT AT ALL WE MUST DO WHAT WE CAN TO STOP THIS MADNESS

ESPECIALLY, MON AMI SINCE IT'S YOUR FAULT.

MY, P WHAT DO I
HAVE TO DO WITH
ONSLAUGHT?

HE GOT A MIGHTY
EVIL STREAK -- AN'
WE FIGGER DAT
COMES FROM

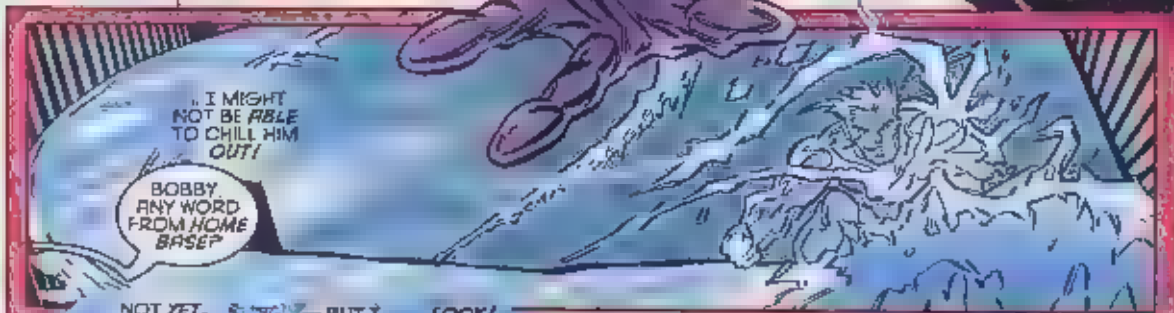
WATCH
YOUR MOUTH,
REMY! SHUT IT,
FORE I SHUT
IT FOR --



ARCHIE!
BETTY!
VERONICA!
HEADS UP!



YOU
LET ANOTHER
ONE SNEAK UP
BEHIND YOU
LIKE THIS



.. I MIGHT
NOT BE ABLE
TO CHILL HIM
OUT!

BOBBY
ANY WORD
FROM HOME
BASE?

NOT YET.
THE BIG BRAINS
ARE STILL TINKERING.
RACING THE
CLOCK --

-- BUT I
THINK TIME
JUST RAN
OUT!

LOOK!
OVER
CENTRAL
PARK!



IT STARTS LIKE
A DAWNING SUN.
THE AIR FILLS
WITH LIGHT --



THAT
FLARES
WITH A
NOVA
FLASH --



TO REVEAL
AN EBON
CITADEL --

-- THAT DWARFS
THE TALLEST
SKYSCRAPERS
IN ITS SHADOW

IT IS THE LAST
BRIGHT MOMENT
THE WORLD MAY
EVER SEE.

**HOMO
SAPIENS -- HEAR
THE WORDS OF
ONSLAUGHT!**

FROM
THIS DAY
FORWARD THE
HUMANS SHALL
NO LONGER
INHERIT THE
EARTH!

NO
MORE SHALL
MUTANTKIND
BE SO SAVAGELY
OPPRESSED

-- FOR
TODAY MARKS THE
ULTIMATE
ASCENDANCE OF THE
HOMO SUPERIOR
RACE!

PEOPLE
OF THE
WORLD --



WHAT IS HE DOING?

MOVE IN! MOVE IN, BEFORE

BEHOLD MY MIGHTY HAND!



AN ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE SO FIERCE AS TO UPROOT THE VERY BEDROCK OF THE ISLAND.

ACROSS THE CITY, IT SPARKS EXPLOSIONS.





THE SHOCK-
WAVE HITS LIKE
A COMET.

WITH A GESTURE CHILLINGLY
CASUAL, ONSLAUGHT BLANKETS
MANHATTAN WITH A CORUSCATING
BLAST OF UNEARTHLY ENERGY



IT SHATTERS
BUILDINGS

IT DEADENS EVERY
ERG OF POWER IN
ITS WAKE...

TURNING SUBWAYS...
ELEVATORS
OPERATING
ROOMS...

.. INTO
SILENT
TOMBS

WITH A COLD AND
EXACTING FINALITY,
IT DESTROYS
CIRCUITRY --



-- IT DESTROYS
ARMOR --



-- IT DESTROYS
HOPE.

OUR
DEFENSES!
WE'VE WORKED
SO HARD --

NO!
NOOO!



WHAT
THE --?

THE
PROTOCOLS --
THEY'RE SHORTING
OUT!

THEM
AND EVERY
OTHER WIDGET
ON THIS
CRATE!

WE'VE
BEEN FRIED
BY AN EMP
WAVE! EVERY-
BODY HOLD
ON!



I'VE
THROWN
EVERY
FAILSAFE I
KNOW TO
THROW --



-- AND
WE'RE STILL IN
FREE-FALL!



AUXILIARY
POWER? EMERGENCY
THRUSTERS?

GONE --
AND GONE!

ANYBODY
GOT ANY LAST
"I LOVE YOU'S
TO SHARE --
SPIT 'EM OUT!
WE'RE LOSING
IT!

**WE'RE
LOSING--**





IS
EVERYONE —
NNNN
— EVERYONE
IN ONE PIECE?

I'M
AFRAID TO
COUNT.
WHAT WAS
THAT?



A SURGE OF
MAGNETIC
ENERGY...

INTENSIFIED BY
AN UNIMAGINABLE
TELEKINETIC
MIGHT.

IT
APPEARS
ONSLAUGHT HAS
MADE HIS OPENING
STATEMENT...



"... DROPPING EACH AND
EVERY ONE OF US WITH
HIS VERY FIRST SALVO.
GOD HELP US..."



"... WE ARE AT
HIS MERCY."

SOMEWHERE IN
NORTH AFRICA...

... FAR BENEATH THE
DESERT FLOOR, AN
ANCIENT BEING
CARVES PIECES OF
THE FUTURE.

COMPELLED BY A DARK FORCE
TO CAPTURE IN STONE THE
TURNING POINTS OF HUMAN
HISTORY, OZYMANDIAS IS NOT
OFTEN SURPRISED BY HIS OWN
HANDIWORK.

WHAT HE
SEES
TODAY...

... IS AN
EXCEPTION.

A GLIMPSE OF
ONSLAUGHT...

... NOT AS
HE IS...

... BUT AS
HE WILL
SOON BE...

... AS HE STANDS ATOP
THE ASHES OF WHAT
WAS ONCE THE EARTH...

CONTINUED IN
**UNCANNY
X-MEN #336!**